

Darwin Initiative

Half Year Report (due 31 October each year)

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| Project Ref. No. | 14-043 |
| Project Title | Mpingo Conservation Project – Community Forestry in Kilwa, Tanzania |
| Country(ies) | Tanzania |
| UK Organisation | Fauna & Flora International |
| Collaborator(s) | Mpingo Conservation Project |
| Report date | 25/10/05 |
| Report No. (HYR 1/2/3/4) | HYR 1 |
| Project website | www.mpingoconservation.org |

1. Outline progress over the last 6 months (April – September) against the agreed baseline timetable for the project (if your project has started less than 6 months ago, please report on the period since start up).

Progress is broadly on track. Community Forestry programme suffering partially from external factors, see Q2 below. Research, awareness-raising and training targets for the half year have been met.

Evaluation of Log Frame targets for Year 1

Community Forestry: PFM & MCP programme expanded to 2+ new villages (TA2), with continued support to TA1. *In progress, but behind.*

Research: Completion of district wide rapid survey of timber stocks, establishment of permanent monitoring plots in TA1 & TA2. *Completed as far as PFM programme allows – monitoring plots established during PFRAs.*

Liaison up Consumer Supply Chain: Identification of small-scale importers in UK. *Potentially interested small-scale instrument manufacturers in UK have been identified, but will not be approached until progress has been made on the supply chain. Meeting with owner of large Mpingo saw-mill raised interesting issues about importing Mpingo to the UK.*

Awareness Raising: Education pack trialled in TA1 & TA2. Promotional mpingo wall calendar for local and national use. *On track.*

Milestones for this half year

May 2005: Commence PFM & MCP programmes in TA2 villages: Migeregere & Kisangi-Kimbarambara. *Done.* Establish monitoring plots in TA1 villages. *Done in Kikole; Ruhatwe delayed (see above).*

Begin trialling education pack. *Done.*

June 2005: Complete final field surveys for stocks assessment. *Done.*

Agreed Outputs for this half year

May 2005: 10 plots in TA1 VFAs, 10 plots outside VFAs in TA1, 10 plots in Mitaurure FR = 30 plots total.

Programme modified to require 6 plots in each location. 9+6 plots inside and outside Kikole VFA. Work in Ruhatwe VFA suspended due to boundary conflict. 6 super-size plots established in Mitaurure Forest Reserve.

Sept 2005: At least 4 Tanzanian KDFO staff trained in monitoring techniques. On the job training: 4 x 1 week = 4 man weeks. *Done.*

Each year: At least 30 extended-meetings / workshops will be organised each year in target villages. *On target, >25 already organised.*

Each year: 2-4 national level workshops / seminars can be expected to be attended by project staff each year, and at which results will be presented and discussed. *On track, 1 workshop attended so far.*

Each year: One write-up in either Oryx or FFI magazine. *Not as yet. A paper may be submitted to Oryx on completion of the stocks assessment. Project update will appear in next FFI magazine.*

Each year: MCP & SoundWood websites developed and regular e-newsletter update circulated to members internationally. *MCP web-site has been updated. Due to suspension of the programme, the Soundwood communication materials and website have not been updated.*

2. Give details of any notable problems or unexpected developments that the project has encountered over the last 6 months. Explain what impact these could have on the project and whether the changes will affect the budget and timetable of project activities.

Delays in the government-funded PFM programme, mean some targets for this year will be missed, e.g. with the wet season now imminent, PFRAs in TA2 villages will probably not take place until June 2006. The continuing boundary dispute between Ruhatwe (TA1) and Migeregere (TA2) has been a more severe impediment. It is a politically sensitive issue about which we can be hopeful, but cannot make any promises. Ruhatwe will be assisted in establishing an alternative VFA, which could bring them rapidly back on track. Budget should not be significantly affected. Delays in timetable are potentially recoverable in Year 2 if the boundary issue is satisfactorily resolved.

There have been some deviations from the planned expenditure:

1) The Project had planned to recruit a Community Development Officer (CDO) in August 2005, which was delayed October. The planned expenditure was £3080, but this delay has resulted in an underspend of £1328.68. £211 of this was used to employ a consultant - Paul Harrison - in Q1. The remaining £1118 has been redirected to pay local salaries.

2) Another issue concerns the budgeted running and maintenance costs for the 4WD vehicle. This is budgeted at £5,500; £8,000 & £8,000 for years 1, 2 & 3 respectively. This expenditure is highly dependent on the functioning (or otherwise) of the vehicle: there may be no cause for maintenance in y1, but high costs in y2. Because the Team are unable to predict if/when maintenance costs will be required, we hope it will be possible to carry any unspent funds from this year to next, and the same for years 2 and 3.

3) After much debate, the project has decided to compensate Villagers for their attendance at village meetings. This small additional cost - an extra £373.68 in the Seminars budget line - can be compensated for by savings in other areas of the budget.

4) In Question 26 of the proposal, we stated that Kilwa District Council would provide in-kind co-financing in the form of office space. This arrangement may change, resulting in MCP paying a certain level of office rent. This will not affect the Darwin budget. However, it does impact on the planned co-financing contributions.

5) A recent increase in internet charges may result in a small budgetary over-run.

Have any of these issues been discussed with the Darwin Secretariat and if so, have changes been made to the original agreement?

No; deviations from Workplan and budgeted expenditure will be recoverable in y1/y2.

Discussed with the DI Secretariat: no/yes, in..... (month/yr)

Changes to the project schedule/workplan: no/yes, in.....(month/yr)

3. Are there any other issues you wish to raise relating to the project or to Darwin's management, monitoring, or financial procedures?

No

If you were asked to provide a response to this year's annual report review with your next half year report, please attach your response to this document.

Please note: Any planned modifications to your project schedule/workplan or budget should not be discussed in this report but raised with the Darwin Secretariat directly.

Please send your **completed form by 31 October each year per email** to Stefanie Halfmann, Darwin Initiative M&E Programme, stefanie.halfmann@ed.ac.uk. The report should be between 1-2 pages maximum. **Please state your project reference number in the header of your email message.**